AMERICA'S BEST COMICS PRESENTS
THE GREATEST SCIENCE HERO TEAM-UP OF ALL TIME!
THE MEETING OF THE MILLENNIUM
27
NOV. 2003
PROMETHEA® the TERRIFIC VS TOM STRONG™
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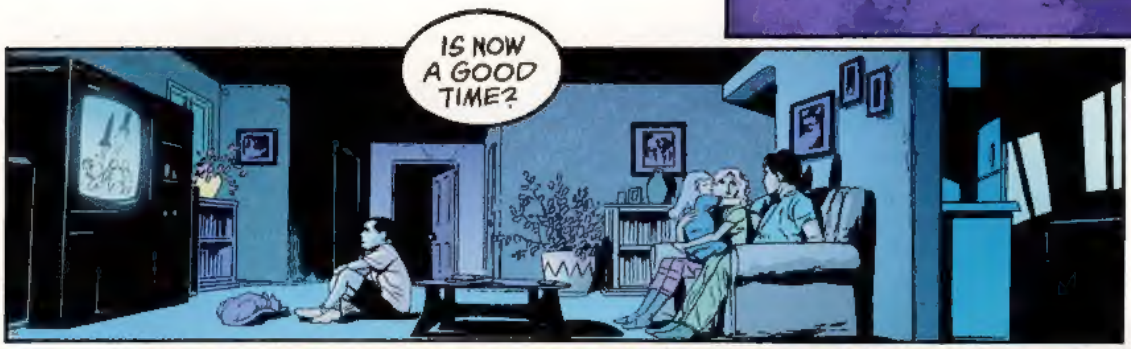

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Jim Lee, Editorial Director **John Nee**, VP & General Manager **Scott Dunbier**, Group Editor

NO.
NOT REALLY.
WH-WHY ARE YOU CHASING ME?
BECAUSE I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
YOU'RE JOEY ESTRADA. YOU USED TO LIVE IN NEW YORK, WHERE YOU WERE SOPHIE BANGS.
SOPHIE BANGS IS OUR CURRENT ERA'S PROMETHEA.
NO! I--I MEAN, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG...
SOPHIE, PLEASE. I'M TOM STRONG. I DON'T GET THINGS WRONG.
ALTHOUGH YOU'VE NEVER MET ME BEFORE, I USED TO WORK WITH AN EARLIER PROMETHEA.
I LIKED HER. WE WERE FRIENDS. I'M NOT YOUR ENEMY, SOPHIE.
I JUST WANT EVERYTHING STRAIGHTENED OUT.
L-LOOK, IF I SAID I... I KNEW THIS SOPHIE BANGS, OKAY? KNEW HER REAL WELL.
AND LIKE, I KNOW SHE NEVER, EVER WANTS TO BECOME PROMETHEA AGAIN, RIGHT?
I-IF I SAID THAT, WOULD IT MAKE ALL THIS GO AWAY?
SOPHIE, IF IT WAS JUST ME, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN NEED TO SAY THAT.
THE F.B.I. ARE INVOLVED IN THIS. IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE, THEY SEE YOU AS A TERRORIST.
THEY SAY YOU CAUSED THE ABDUCTION OF SOME CHILDREN...
TH-THAT'S A LIE!

SOPHIE, I'VE SEEN THE FILES.
THEY INCLUDED THE GRAND-CHILDREN OF A HENRY ROYCE, WHO PROMETHEA VISITED ONCE.
THEY WERE ABDUCTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN THE FICTIONAL PIED PIPER.
THEY'RE ASSUMED DEAD.
OH £$%&.
YEAH.
BUT I THINK WHAT THE F.B.I. ARE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT IS THIS BUSINESS ABOUT PROMETHEA INTENDING TO END THE WORLD.
PROMETHEA DOESN'T HAVE A £$%&ING CHOICE!
OH CHRIST...
WHAT?
SHE DOESN'T HAVE A CHOICE. IT'S NOT WHAT SHE INTENDS OR DOESN'T INTEND.
THAT'S WHY I'M NEVER TURNING INTO HER AGAIN. I DON'T WANT TO DO IT.
I DON'T WANT TO END THE WORLD.
TH-THOSE CHILDREN. I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT. I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED.
M-MR. STRONG, I'M ONLY, LIKE, TWENTY OR SOMETHING.
I C-CAN'T TAKE ALL THIS STUFF...
SHH. IT'S OKAY, SOPHIE.
MBC
EVERY-THING'S OKAY.

TOM?
...MBC EXCLUSIVE, LIVE FROM MILLENNIUM'S LAUNDRY STREET, WHERE TOM STRONG HAS APPARENTLY CAPTURED AN UNKNOWN WOMAN AFTER A DRAMATIC CHASE.
FEDERAL SOURCES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT STRONG IS CURRENTLY HELPING THEM TRACK A FEMALE TERRORIST...
SOPHIE?
JOEY?
IT'S HER. WE GOT HER.
IT'S...

Promethea

WHEN IT BLOWS ITS STACKS

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GET THE HELL AWAY FROM HERE! THIS ISN'T YOUR CONCERN!
YOU LIED! YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T MY ENEMY, AND YOU LIED!
W-WE BETTER PULL HER BACK...

SOPHIE, PLEASE. YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME. I DIDN'T ALERT THE MEDIA...
YOU'RE SEVEN FEET TALL IN A BRIGHT RED SHIRT AND YOU WERE CHASING ME! OF COURSE YOU ALERTED THEM!
NOW EVERYTHING'S SCREWED!

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE.
LOOK, IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT NOT WANTING TO BE PROMETHEA AGAIN, WHY NOT EXPLAIN THAT TO THE F.B.I.?

YOU ARE SO DUMB.
THEY'RE SO SCARED OF HER, THEY'LL SHOOT ME JUST TO MAKE SURE.
THEY'RE PROBABLY HEADED HERE RIGHT NOW.

UH, TESLA? SOLOMON? IT'S ME.
LOOK, IF ANY FEDS SHOW UP, TELL THEM TO BACK OFF.
AND MAKE SURE THEY DON'T DEPLOY ANY SNIPERS.

IN SHOCK? WHAT DO YOU...?
NO. NO, OKAY.
YEAH. OKAY. TOM OUT.

WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY DAUGHTER?

WHAT? N-NOTHING. WELL, I HIT HER WITH MY BAG. SHE SUDDENLY LOOKED SORTA SPACED OUT, SO I TOOK MY OPPORTUNITY.
L-LOOK, I DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT HER. SHE WAS GONNA HIT ME...
SHE'S IN SHOCK. SHE CAN'T STOP CRYING, AND SHE JUST KEEPS TALKING ABOUT...ABOUT A GLASS OF WATER OR SOMETHING.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?

NOTHING! I--I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT ANY GLASS OF WATER.
LOOK, JUST LET ME GO, OKAY? BEFORE THE FEDS GET HERE. JUST SAY I ESCAPED.
I-I'LL LEAVE MILLENNIUM. I WON'T BE YOUR PROBLEM ANYMORE.
PLEASE.

SOPHIE, I... DON'T YOU SEE, I CAN'T TAKE THAT CHANCE?
IF ONE DAY YOU BECOME PROMETHEA AND END THE WORLD, IT'S EVERYBODY'S PROBLEM.
Y-YOU'RE GOING TO, RIGHT?
YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME TO THE FEDS.

FBI

SOPHIE... REALISTICALLY, I CAN'T WITHHOLD YOU FROM THEM. NOT AFTER THAT T.V. HELICOPTER.
BUT I CAN PROMISE THEY WON'T HARM YOU...
NO! NO, YOU CAN'T!
D-DON'T YOU SEE? YOU'RE NOT LEAVING ME ANY OPTIONS.

SOPHIE, LOOK, IF YOU'RE THINKING OF TURNING INTO PROMETHEA... ALL I'M SAYING IS, I CAN STOP YOU BEFORE YOU HAVE TIME TO SCRIBBLE A DRAWING OR WHATEVER YOU DO.
I DON'T NEED ALL THAT ANYMORE.

THIS IS ON YOU. Y-YOU'RE MAKING ME DO THIS. OH GOD...
I STAY HER FROM HER TASK.
WHAT?

OH GOD.
SOPHIE! SOPHIE, DON'T!
HER WAY I BAR.

NOW SHE DISCARDS MY MASK:
I'M WARNING YOU! DON'T...

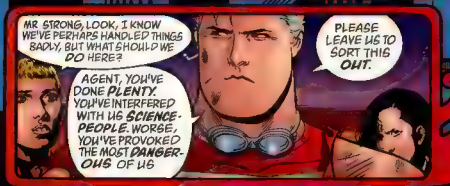
...DO IT...
PROMETHEA.

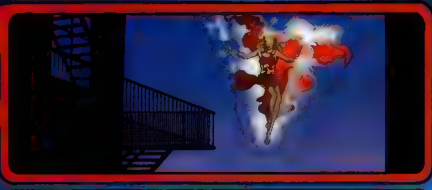
KROKT
OH JESUS.
FIRE AT WILL!
NO!

A-AGENT BREUGHEL, SOMEBODY MUST HAVE LOADED OUR GUNS WITH... UH, WELL, WITH BUTTERFLIES.
TH-THOSE ARE MOTHS.
DASH your blasted guns! What about Master TOM?
URRNGH...
YOU'RE,... YOU'RE NOT...THE PROMETHEA I KNEW. WH-WHAT...
WHAT ARE YOU?
I AM THE FINAL FIRE.
MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH YOURSELF, TOM STRONG. MAKE THINGS RIGHT WITH GOD.
MY TIME IS COME.
...
STRONG? WHAT IN HELL HAPPENED, MAN? YOU LET HER GET AWAY!
OUR WHOLE RECAPTURE OPERATION IS FINISHED!
AGENT BALL, I...
I--I THINK. EVERYTHING'S FINISHED.

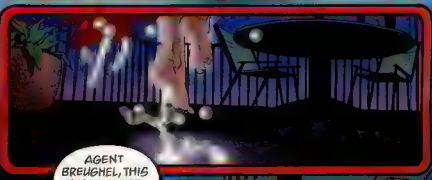
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I THINK SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING TO END THE WORLD.
I THINK SHE'S HEADED SOMEWHERE TO COMMENCE THINGS.
OH JESUS

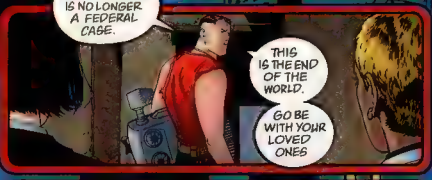
W-WE HAVE TO GET SOME F-15'S IN THE AIR, BRING HER DOWN...
REALLY? AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SHE TURNS YOUR JETS INTO FLOCKS OF PARAKEETS?
OH GOD LUCILLE, HE'S RIGHT.
W-WE'LL HAVE TO TRACK HER BY SATELLITE, FIND OUT WHERE SHE'S GOING...


MR. STRONG, LOOK, I KNOW WE'VE PERHAPS HANDLED THINGS BADLY, BUT WHAT SHOULD WE DO HERE?
AGENT, YOU'VE DONE PLENTY. YOU'VE INTERFERED WITH UG SCIENCE-PEOPLE. WORSE, YOU'VE PROVOKED THE MOST DANGEROUS OF UG
PLEASE LEAVE UG TO SORT THIS OUT.



"UG?" WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "UG?"
I MEAN THE SCIENCE COMMUNITY. WE'RE THE ONLY ONES WITH A CHANCE OF TAKING HER OUT OF THIS.
M-MR. STRONG, THIS IS A FEDERAL CASE. WE CAN'T HAVE YOUR PEOPLE INTRUDING ON IT...




AGENT BREUGHEL, THIS IS NO LONGER A FEDERAL CASE.
THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD.
GO BE WITH YOUR LOVED ONES

JOEY?

NO, CARL. NOT JOEY.
BUT YES, IT'S ME.
I--I WAS JUST WATCHING YOU ON TV, AND,,,
GOD. GOD, THIS IS SO WEIRD
I--I FEEL LIKE ALL THIS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE
IT'S ALWAYS HAPPENING, EVERYTHING'S ALWAYS HAPPENING
RIGHT. RIGHT. I--I KIND OF UNDERSTAND, YOU KNOW? I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN.
Y-YOU'RE PROMETHEA, YEAH? THE SCIENCE-HEROINE FROM NEW YORK.
YOU'RE OUT OF MY LEAGUE NOW, RIGHT?
YES
THAT'S OKAY
J-JOEY, YOU,,,
YOU ALWAYS WERE
PIZZA
SO, UM,,,
SO YOU GOTTA GO DO SOMETHING PRETTY IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW, HUH?
TH-THAT'S WHAT IT FEELS LIKE.
YES. I'M GOING TO END THE WORLD
YEAH
YEAH, I GUESS I KIND OF KNEW THAT. OH GOD.
W-WELL, OKAY. THAT'S COOL. WE GOTTA DESERVE IT. DON'T WE? ALL THIS $#%& WE PULL.
I-IS IT GOING TO HURT?
A LOT OF PEOPLE WILL HURT THEMSELVES.
AND YES, YES, YOU DESERVE IT.
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH, CARL. I LOVE ALL OF YOU SO MUCH.
I--I CAN FEEL WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, YOU KNOW?
JESUS, JOEY, THIS IS £$%&ED UP. I MEAN, YOU'RE LIKE THE HORNIEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN, AND,,,
...AND I FEEL LIKE I'M TALKING WITH MY MOM.
CALL HER, CARL. AND CALL YOUR SISTER.
SHE'S ANGRY WITH YOU, AND THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT NOW. PUT IT RIGHT.
I--I WILL.
L-LISTEN, WHEN THIS IS OVER, MAYBE I'LL SEE YOU AFTERWARDS, HUH?
CARL, THERE IS NO AFTERWARDS.
FARE WELL, MY LOVE
I'LL SEE YOU IN TIME.

LOOKS LIKE SHE LEFT THE ESTRADA ADDRESS.
IF SHE'S LEAVING MILLENNIUM, I'D SAY SHE WAS HEADED FOR NEW YORK
CHRIST, KAREN, WE HAVE TO CALL WASHINGTON...
UH...YEAH. YEAH, DEFINITELY. CALL WASHINGTON.
JESUS, LUCILLE. JESUS. SHE'S GOING TO DO IT, ISN'T SHE?
KAREN...
...MOUNTAIN WHEN SHE COMES...
FBI
BUT, BUT I SHOULD... IF IT'S ENDING, I SHOULD BE WITH GORDON AND BILLY. I SHOULD...
WAIT, LOOK, IT'S NOT... UH...
HOLY &!#%.
CHUKULTEH! PNEUMAN, LOOK AT THE SKY! IT'S ALL...
DHALWA? I NEED YOU TO MAKE SOME CALLS, AND I NEED THE JUMP-JET.
LISTEN, TESLA'S HAD A REAL BAD SCARE.
BABY? WHAT...?
FIND VAL SO HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HER.
AND AFTER THAT, PLACE CALLS TO INDIGO AND COFFEEBURG WHILE I HEAD FOR MASSACHUSETTS.
Massachusetts? I say, sah! What on Earth are you doing THERE?
I'M DOING WHAT HAS TO BE DONE.
I'M GOING TO FIND OUT IF JOHN MERRITT RAY IS STILL ALIVE.
AND THEN I'M RECONVENING AMERICA'S BEST.

yeeeeeeee! eeeeeeegh!
Let me OUT! She's COMING!
She's coming round the MOUNTAIN!
yeeeeeeegh!
H-HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN LIKE THIS?
ABOUT A HALF-HOUR. I-IT'S THE LONGEST IT'S EVER HELD A SHAPE OR SPOKEN...
yeeeeeeegh!
Don't you UNDER-STAND? Someone's going to CATCH it!
Someone's going to catch it when MOM gets home!
INCREDIBLE. WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
yeeeeeeeeeIGH!
THE-THEY'RE ALL SORT OF RESTLESS, EXCEPT FAUST.
CHRIST, I WISH IT WOULD STOP SCREAM-ING.
I'D BETTER GO CHECK ON THEM.
WHAT'S GOING ON, FAUST? YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, DON'T YOU?
THIS BETTER NOT BE YOUR MAGIC, OKAY? I CAN INCREASE YOUR MEDICATION...
IT AIN'T ME, AGENT. IT'S HER. SHE'S COMING BACK.
SHE'LL TAKE MANHATTAN.

...AND WITH ONE COALITION SOLDIER KILLED EACH DAY SINCE THE WAR'S END NEARLY TWO MONTHS AGO...
WAR OVER?
THE WAR ENDED? WASN'T IT JUST YESTERDAY THE FIGHTING STARTED?
S-SAY, WHAT MONTH IS THIS, ANYWAY?
...RIDING SIX WHITE HORSES, RIDING SIX WHITE HORSES...
...me go let me go let me GO!
Sick white HORSEFLESH! She'll be riding sick white horseflesh. I mean Whore's flesh, but don't let me BABBLE ON...
EEEEEEEIIIGH!
...A FEW MOMENTS AGO, WHEN WHITE HOUSE SPOKESPERSON ARI FLEISCHER ANNOUNCED A STATE OF RED ALERT.
THIS FOLLOWS FBI INTELLIGENCE BELIEVED TO BE CONNECTED WITH EVENTS IN MILLENNIUM CITY EARLIER TODAY...
WAIT A MINUTE. EARLIER TODAY? WASN'T THAT IN MARCH OR SOMETHING? BUT THIS IS... WAIT, I'M GETTING CONFUSED HERE...
...SIMULTANEOUS REPORTS THAT THE SARS EPIDEMIC IS SPREADING UNCONTROLLABLY, AND IS ALMOST OVER. HOLD ON, THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT...
Y'KNOW, I... A COUPLE YEARS BACK, I... I ROBBED MY MOM. I JUST THOUGHT OF THAT.
JESUS.
WE... WE OUGHTTA GO OUTSIDE. I-- I GOT THIS FEELING...

YEAH. YEAH, ME TOO. OUTSIDE. THAT'S A GREAT IDEA.
YOU KNOW... YOU KNOW, I FEEL LIKE I JUST WOKE UP AND I DON'T RECOGNIZE THIS PLACE...
YEAH. SAY, THIS GLASS I'M HOLDING...
DOES...DOES IT REMIND YOU OF ANYTHING?
SHE'LL BE WEARING PINK PAJAMAS WHEN SHE COMES...
COME, NOBODY LIKES YOU HERE!
...FLEISCHER, REPEATING THE RED ALERT WARNING ISSUED EARLIER TODAY, AND...
BOB, WAIT A MINUTE... DIDN'T ARI FLEISCHER STEP DOWN AS PRESS SECRETARY SOME MONTHS AGO? OR AM I MIXED UP?
SAVE WATER
OH, SOPHIE.
OH, BABY. WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN?
AND WE'LL KILL THE OLD RED ROOSTER WHEN SHE COMES...
...BUT WITH THOUSANDS OF NEW YORKERS SPONTANEOUSLY GOING OUTDOORS TO SEE THIS PHENOMENON, THERE'S STILL NO RESPONSE FROM THE FOUR SWELL GUYS...
DAMN! MARV, HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?
I-I...HASN'T THIS HAPPENED BEFORE? TH-THIS HAPPENS RIGHT BEFORE MY BIG REVELATION...
4
AND WE'LL ALL GO OUT TO MEET HER WHEN SHE COMES...
GHEEEEEE11GGH! This is not a DRILL!
Holy Christ, Holy Cow, Holy Grail, Holy S**!, Holy Mother Holy Bible, Holy Babble, Holy Holy Holy Lord God Almighty...
YEEEEE11GGHH!
SINGING AI-AI-YIPPEE-YIPPEE-AI...
Y-YOU KNOW, YOU'RE RIGHT. ABOUT THE GLASS? MINE REMINDS ME OF SOMETHIN', TOO, BUT I DON'T...
HEY, EVERYBODY'S COME OUT HERE! EVERYBODY IN THE WORLD!
SEE? THERE SHE IS...
BUT... BUT THAT'S MY MOM! I-ISN'T IT? WHAT'S MY MOM DOING UP THERE?
SINGING AI-AI-YIPPEE-YIPPEE-AI...

SINGING AI-AI-YIPPEE-YIPPEE...
AI-AI-YIPPEE...
AI-AI-YIPPEE-YIPPEE-AI.
NEXT: DON'T THEY KNOW IT'S THE END OF THE WORLD (IT ENDED WHEN YOU SAID GOODBYE)?